

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3084
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
RAIL ROAD LINKAGE PROJECTS
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of rail-road linkage projects pertaining to the minor ports of Gujarat are pending/under execution;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects;
- (c) the progress made in respect of these projects during each of the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard during the current year; and
- (e) the details thereof, project-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e): Union Government is responsible for development and maintenance of only National Highways

(NH) and providing NH connectivity to the Major Ports of the country. At present, there is only one Major Port in Gujarat, i.e., Kandla Port which is well connected through National Highway NH-8A. However, projects for augmentation of National Highways in Gujarat, that have been included in the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) Phase-III, would also facilitate improved road linkage to some Minor Ports of Gujarat. These projects are Jetpur-Somnath Section of NH-8D, Kandla-Mundra Port Section of NH-8A and Surat-Hazira Port Section of NH-6.

For providing rail linkage to the Minor Ports in Gujarat, the Gujarat Maritime Board has initiated and completed Techno-Feasibility Studies for providing Broad Gauge Linkages to important Minor Ports of Gujarat. However, no formal proposal has been given to the Indian Railways by the Government of Gujarat. Meanwhile, Railways are executing following two projects for providing linkage to Minor Ports in Gujarat:

Dahej Port- The Bharuch-Dahej new line project has been sanctioned for execution. Final location survey for the project has already been completed.

Hazira Port- Project report for Surat-Hazira new line project, based on final location survey has been finalized.